ARTICLES
OF
ENQUIRY
CONCERNING
Matters Eccleſiaſtical,
EXHIBITED
To the Church-wardens of the ſeveral Pariſhes within the Arch-Deaconry of *LEWES*.

For Directions to them in their Preſentments at the *VISITATION*
OF
JOSEPH SAYER, B. D.
Arch-Deacon of *LEWES*.

LONDON, Printed for *Obadiah Blagrave*. 1683.

The Church-Wardens Oath.

YOU ſhall ſwear truly and faithfully to execute the Office of a Church-Warden within your Pariſh, and according to the beſt of your Skill and Knowledge; Preſent ſuch things and Perſons, as to your knowledge are Preſentable by the Laws Eccleſiaſtical of this Realm. So help you God and the Contents of this Book.

The Side-Mens Oath.

YOU ſhall ſwear that you will be aſſiſtant to the Church-Wardens in the execution of their Office ſo far as by Law you are bound. So help you God.

FOR THE

Arch-Deaconry of *LEWES.*

ARTICLES OF INSTRUCTION

To the Church-wardens to direct their Enquiry and Presentments.

TIT: I.

Concerning Churches and Chappels with the Ornaments and Furniture thereof.

IS your Church or Chappel with the Chancel and Tower or Steeple thereof in good repair. Are all things therein kept decently and in such Order, as becomes the House of God. *Can.* 85.

II Hath any part of it been demolished, or been

 suffered

1 in. Prou. Const. Lib 3. de immunitat. Eccles. suffered to fall, and not rebuilt? Hath any of the Lead, Bells, Timber, or Utensils thereunto belonging been imbezelled or converted to any private use, and by whom?

Can. 81. III. Is there a Font of stone standing in the usual Place for the Administration of Baptisme? is *Can. 82.* there a decent Communion Table for the Celebration of the Lords Supper, with a Carpet of Silk or some other convenient stuff, with which 'tis always covered in the time of Divine Service? Is there an other Covering of Pure, White, and clean *Rubrick of Com:* Linnen to be used constantly at the Administration of the Holy Sacrament? Is there a fair Com- *Can. 20.* munion Cup or Chalice, with a Cover of Silver, and one or more Flagons of Silver or Pewter? *Rubrick of Com.* And is there a Basonwherein to receive & to present the Almes and other Devotions of the People; and *Can 84.* is there a Cheft conveniently placed for the People to put in their Alms?

Can. 82. 83. IV. Is there a convenient Seat or Pew for the Minister to Celebrate Divine Service in? A Pulpit conveniently placed to preach the word in? A decent Cloath or Cushion for the same? A *Can 58.* Comely large Surplice for the Minister to wear at all times of his Administration, and that wash't from time to time as need requires at the charge of the Parish?

V. Is there a large Bible in Folio of the last *Can. 80. 1. Eliz. 14. Car. 2.* Translation? two Books of Common Prayer, one for the Minister, the other for the Clark? the Book

Book of Homilies, all decently and substantially Bound? a Book of Cannons and Constitutions Eccleſiastical? a Printed Table of Degrees, signifying what Marriages are by Law inhibited? *Ks. Conſt. Can. Can. 99.*

VI. Is there a Regiſter Book of Parchment, wherein to ſet down the Names of all Perſons Chriſtened, Married and Buried within your Pariſh, with the Names and Sirnames of both the Parents of Children ſo Chriſtned, expreſſing the Day Month and Year of ſuch Chriſtnings, Marriages, and Burials? Is the ſaid Book ſo kept as the Law appoints? and is there a Tranſcript thereof ſent yearly into the Biſhops Regiſtry within one Month next after the 25 of March? *Can. 70.*

VII. Is there another Book wherein to record the Names and Licences of ſuch Preachers as being Strangers, are at any time admitted to Preach in your Church or Chappel? And is there a good ſtrong Cheſt with Locks and Keys, wherein to keep the afore-mentiond Books and other furniture of the Church in ſafe Cuſtody? And in the laſt Place is there a Bier and Hearſe-Cloath for the Burial of the Dead? *Can. 70.* *Can. 89.*

TIT. II.

Concerning the Church-yard, Houſes, Glebes, Tithes, and other Profits belonging to the Church.

1. IS your Church or Chappel-yard well fenced? is it kept, as it ought to be, from being profaned?

Can. 85. profaned? hath any incroachment been made upon it, or any door made into it from any private mans house or ground without consent of the Ordinary; Have any of the Trees therein growing been cut down except in case of Necessity for 35. *Ed.* 1. repair of the Church or Chappel? when, by whom, and for whose use were they cut?

Lin. lib. 1. *de Offic. Archid.* II. Is there a Parsonage or Vicarage-House in your Parish? is it kept in good repair, with all the out-houses thereunto belonging? Have any of them been defaced or pulled down without Licence from the Ordinary, when and by whom?

Can. 87. III. Have you a true and perfect Terrier of all the Glebelands, Gardens, Orchards, Tenements, and other Rights and Emoluments belonging to your said Parsonage or Vicarage? as also a Note of such Pensions, Rate-Tithes, and Portions of Tithes, and other yearly Profits either within or without the Parish, as are of right belonging thereunto, and are these all enjoyed at present by your Minister, or is he defrauded of any of them and by whom?

Lin. lib. 3. *de Rebus Eccles.* IV. Have any of the Ancient Glebe-lands been alienated or exchanged without Licence from the Ordinary, and free consent of the Incumbent? Have any Inclosure been made in your Parish to the detriment of the Church by Delay of Tillage, 39. *Eliz.* 2. and converting arable land into Pasture? by whom hath the same been made and when? how much is your Parsonage or Vicarage thereby worsted in the yearly value thereof?

TIT.

TIT. III.

Concerning Ministers.

1. IS your Minister Episcopally ordained according to the Laws of this Church and Kingdom? Hath he been Legally instituted and inducted into his Benefice? Hath he publickly read the 39 Articles established by Authority within 2 Months after his Induction on some Sunday or Holyday in the time of Common Prayer with Declaration of his unfeigned assent thereunto? 14. *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 4. *Can.* 36. 13. *Eliz. C.* 12.

II. Hath he also since the publishing of the last Act for Uniformity openly, publickly and solemnly read the Morning and Evening Prayer (according to the Book by the said Act established) upon some Lords day in your Church, and after such reading thereof openly and publickly before the Congregation then assembled, declared his unfeigned assent and consent to the use of all things in the said Book contained and prescribed in the very words appointed by the said Act? And hath he subscribed the Declaration, or Acknowledgement specifyed in the said Act, and upon some Lords-day in your said Church in the Presence of the Congregation in the time of Divine Service read the Ordinaries Certificate of his said subscription, together with the said Declaration? 14. *Car.* 2. *Cap.* 4.

III. Is he known or suspected to have obtained his 31. *Eliz.* 6. *Can.* 36.

his Orders or his Benefice by any Symoniacal Compact.

Can. 45. IV. IS your Minister a Licenced Preacher? doth he Preach every Lords day, unless hindred by Sickness or some other the like reasonable, and lawfull Impediment, and in such cases doth he procure some lawfull Minister to Celebrate Divine Service, to Preach, and to perform other Ministerial Offices in his stead?

21. *Hen.* 8. *c.* 13. 13. *Eliz.* *c.* 20. 14. *Eliz.* *c.* 11. 18. *Eliz.* *c.* 10. 43. *Eliz.* *c.* 9. 1. *Jam.* *c.* 25. *Can* 47. 48. V. Is he constantly resident amongst you, and if not how many Days or Months in the Year hath he been absent from his Benefice? Hath he a Curat to assist him in his absence or Presence? is that Curat in Holy Orders? is he a Licenced Preacher, is he allowed by the Bishop to serve the Cure? doth he in all things behave himself as a discreet and able Minister? Is he conformable to the Orders of the Church of *England*? Doth he serve any other Cure besides that of your Parish, and at what distance? what Salary hath he for so doing? In the absence of your Minister is the said Curat constantly resident? or if not, how many days in the year hath he been absent from his said Cure.

13 *Eliz.* 20. 1 *Jam.* 25. 14 *Can* 2. *Can.* 14. 68. VI. Doth your Parson Vicar or Curate in Reading Morning and Evening Prayer, administring the Holy Sacrament, Celebrating Marriage, Churching of Women after Child-birth, Burying the Dead, and performing other Religious Offices appointed by the Church, use the respective forms contained and prescribed in and by the Book of Common

Rubrick of the Common Prayer.

Common Prayer without Addition, Substraction, or Alteration? And in all times of his Administration doth he wear the Surplice and such Scholastical habit, as is agreeable to his degree, and doth he use such other Rites and Ceremonies as are appointed by the said Book? *Can 58.*

VII. Doth he endeavour to reclaim all such Popish Recusants and other Sectaries as inhabit within your Parish? *Can. 66.*

VIII. Doth your Minister bid and observe Holy-days, and Fasting days; the Ember weeks, and the yearly Perambulation in Rogation week, in such sort as is by Law appointed. *Can. 64. Rub. Com. Pray. Q. Eliz. injunct. 1559.*

IX. Hath he taken upon him to appoint Private Fasts, or to administer the Sacrament in Private Houses otherwise then is by Law allowed? Doth he or any other within your Parish whether Minister or Layman hold any Private Conventicle or religious Meeting for several Families to resort unto, contrary to the Laws and Canons in that case provided? *Can. 27. Can. 73. 22. Car. 2.*

X. Doth he every Sunday and Holy-day after the 2d. Lesson in the afternoon instruct the Youth of your Parish in the Catechism set forth by Authority, and doth he present them being so instructed to the Bishop for Confirmation? *Rub. Com. Pr. Can. 59. 61.*

XI. Doth he in his Sermons Preach sound Doctrine tending to the edification of the People in the Knowledge and Faith of Jesus Christ, and Obedience to Gods holy Commands? or hath he at any time preach't any false, Schismatical, Seditious, or Heretical Doctrine, particularly hath he preach't any thing repugnant to the 39 Articles of the Church of *England*, or to any one of them, or hath he Preach't or Publish't any thing to intice or stir up the People to hatred or dislike of his Majesties Person, or of the established Government? *Can. 5. 13 Eliz 12. 13. Car. 2. C. 1.*

XII. Doth he refuse or neglect to visit the Sick? doth

Can. 67. Can. 69. Can. 29. he delay the Baptism of any Infant that is in danger of Death? Doth he use to Baptize any without God-Fathers and God Mothers? Doth he admit either of the Parents to be God-Father, or God-Mother to their own Children? doth he refuse the Sacrament of the Lords Supper to any of his Parishioners and for what cause? or hath he given it to those that are Scandalous or Notorious Sinners, to Persons Excommunicate, or to Strangers? Doth he administer the Holy Sacrament duely, so as that every Parishioner may receive it 3 times a year at least, whereof Easter to be one? And doth he give warning publickly in the Church the Sunday before his administring the Sacrament, that his Parishioners having timely notice may be the better prepared?

Rub. Com. Can. 26. Can. 21. Can. 22.

XIII. Hath he presumed to Marry any Persons in Private Houses? or such as being under Age have not the consent of their Parents? or without the Banns first published on three Sundays or Holy-days in their Parish Church, or at any other hours than between Eight and Twelve in the Morning, except he had a Licence & dispensation from his Ordinary so to do?

Can. 62. Rub. Com. Pra.

XIV. Doth he yearly upon some Sunday at the time of the greatest Assembly in the Church read the Statute of the 5th. and 6th. of Edw. 6. c. 1. and shew the power and effect of the unanimous Prayers of Gods People in their Necessities? Doth he upon the Sunday before the 5th. of Novem. read publickly to his Parishioners in the Church after Morning Prayer, or Preaching, the Statute of the 3d. of King *James* c. 1? Doth he twice every year on some Sunday after Evening Prayer read in his Parish Church the Statute of the 21st. of King *James*, c. 20. against profane Cursing and Swearing? Doth he every year on the Sunday next before the 29th of May at Morning Prayer in the Church read the Statute

5. & 6. Ed. 6. c. 1. warning & on 3 Jac. c. 1. 21 Jac. c. 20.

Statute of the 12th. of *Charles* the 2d. c. 14? And doth he once every year upon some Sundays or Holydays in the Afternoon before Divine Service read the Book of Canons agreed upon in the Synod begun at *London Anno Dom.* 1603? And doth he twice every year read the 39 Articles, that the People may the better understand and be more throughly acquainted with the Doctrine and Discipline of the Church of England, and not so easily drawn away from it as formerly they have been? 12 Car. 2. C. 14 Kin. Jam. Pro. King Car. 2. Direct. Oct. 14. 1662. King James Direct. Nov. 5. 1685.

XV. Doth any Person Preach within your Parish as a Lecturer, is he Licenced so to do by the Bishop? Did he the first time he Preached before his Sermon openly, publickly and solemnly read the Common Prayers and Service in and by the Book of Common Prayer appointed to be read for the time of the day, and then and there openly and publickly declare his unfeigned assent and consent to the use of all things in the said Book contained and prescribed in the very Words contained and appointed by the Act of Uniformity? Hath he performed all other things appointed by the said Act, and is he in all things conformable to the Orders of the Church of *England?* 14. Car. 2. c. 4.

XVI. Is your Parson, Vicar, Curat, Lecturer, or other Minister, of a sober, pious, peaceable conversation; or on the contrary, is he a Frequenter of Taverns, or Alehouses, a common Gamester, a profane Swearer, an obscene Jester, an intemperate Drinker, a Fomenter of Suits and Contentions among Neighbours? Is he suspected of incontinency with any Person? Doth he familiarly converse with Persons infamous or excommunicate? Doth he spend his time idlely in playing at Dice, Cards, Tables, or the like? or doth he give himself to any base or servile work or secular occupation unbeseeming the Duty and Dignity of his Office? Is his Apparel grave and decent both for fashion and co- Can. 75. Can. 74.

lour as the Canons of the Church require? or is his carriage and conversation in any kind disorderly, Scandalous and unbeseeming a Minister of Chirst Jesus?

TIT. IV.

Concerning Parishioners.

Can 110. Rub. Com. Can. 2. Can. 4. Can. 5. Can. 6. Can. 9. Can. 110.

1. IS there any Person in your Parish that is a hinderer of Gods Word, an Impugner of the Kings Supremacy, of the publick worship of God, of the Articles of Religion, or of the Rites and Ceremonies by Law established in the Church of England? Is there any Person that doth separate himself from the Communion of the Church, or that makes Profession of any other Religion then what the Law appoints? Is there any Person in your Parish, that is a defender of Popish, erroneous Doctrine, a Fautor of any Forreign or usurped power, or an impugner of the Government of this Church by Arch-Bishops, Bishops, Deans, Arch-Deacons and other Ecclesiastical Officers?

Can. 7.

II. Is there any Person in your Parish that doth offend his Brethren by Adultery, Whoredom, Incest or Drunkenness, by Swearing, Ribaldry, Usury, or any other uncleanness, and wickedness of life?

Can. 109.

III. Doth any Person in your Parish upon the Sunday or other Holy-day exercise himself in any Worldly business or work of his Ordinary Calling? Doth any Trades-man keep open his Shop, or any Vintner, Alehouse-keeper, or other Victualler suffer drinking in his house upon that day otherwise then the law alloweth?

5 & 6 Ed. 6. C. 3. 29. Car. 2. C. 7. Can. 13.

1. Eliz. 2. Can. 111 Can. 18.

IV. Do all Persons within your Parish duely resort to your Church or Chappel upon every Sunday and Holy day appointed for Divine Service? Do they then and there abide quietly, with Reverence, Order and Decency, during the whole time of Common Prayer, Preaching and other Service of God there used? Do they

they keep their heads uncovered, stand up at the Creed, and Gospel, kneel at the time of Prayer, and make due reverence when the Name of Jesus is mentioned? *Rub. Com. Prayer.*

V. Are there any in your Parish, who refuse to have their infant Children baptized, or do keep them longer unbaptized then the law allows? or that refuse to have them baptized publickly in their Parish Church except it be in case of Danger? Are there any ~~any~~ full grown Persons in your Parish, who are unbaptized *Rub. bap.*

VI. Doth every Housholder in your Parish, send his Children and Servants upon Sundays and Holy-days to be Catechised openly in the Church? and as occasion is offered do they take care to have them confirmed by the Bishop? *Can. 59.*

VII. Is there any person in your Parish who being of the Age of 16 years doth not receive the Sacrament of the Lords Supper at the least three times in the year, whereof Easter to be one? Doth any Person refuse to receive it kneeling, or from the hands of your own Minister, repairing for it to some other Parish? *Rub. Com. Can. 112. Can. 14. Can. 21. Can. 27.*

VIII. Is there any Person in your Parish, that is denounced excommunicate, how long hath he been so, and do any of your Parishioners keep Company with him? Are there any living within your Parish as Man and Wife, who are within the Degrees prohibited? Are there any, who being lawfully divorced have Married again? or any that being lawfully Married and not divorced or separated by due course of Law do not cohabit together? *Can 65. Can. 99. Can. 107.*

IX. Is there any Married Woman in your Parish, who after her Delivery from the peril of Child-birth, doth refuse or neglect to make her publick thanksgiving to God in the Church? Do all Women when they come to be Churched, come decently apparelled, and do they at the same time make their accustomed Offerings? *Rub. com. prae.*

X. Is

27 Hen. 8. 20. Rub. com. pray Can. 85.

X. Is there any Person in your Parish that does refuse to pay his Easter-offerings, or to pay what is assessed upon him for repair of your Church or Chappel, and providing of things necessary for the due performance of Divine Offices?

Rub. com. pray. Can. 102.

XI. Are there any Persons in your Parish, who have been Married in any Private House, or in the Church without Licence, the Banns not being thrice published; or by Licence, or without, neither of the Persons so Married at that time dwelling within your Parish?

Rub. com. pray. Can. 6. Can. 92. 21 Hen. 8. 5. Lin. l. 3. de Test.

XII. Do any refuse to bury their Dead according to the Rites of the Church of *England?* Are there any Wills or Testaments of Persons dead in your Parish that be yet not proved? or any Goods administred without a due Grant from the Ordinary? Did any dying in your Parish, or elsewhere, leave any Legacy to your Church or Chappel? what were those Legacies, and how have they been bestowed?

TIT. V.

Concerning Church-Wardens.

Can. 89. Can. 90.

I. ARE the Church-Wardens of your Parish chosen yearly according to the 89 Canon, and their Assistants (if it be your Custom to have such) according to the 90 Canon? Do they see diligently that all the Parishioners resort duely to their Parish Church on all Sundays and Holydays, and there continue the whole time of Divine Service, and that none walk or stand idle, or talk in or about the Church during that time? Do they call earnestly upon those whom they find to be Slack or negligent in resorting to the Church; and if they amend not after such due Monition do they present them to the Ordinary of the Place?

Can. 90. Can. 89.

II. Have the former and last Church-Wardens given up a just account before the Minister and Parishioners of such

such Money as they received, and in what sort they bestowed it in reparations and providing things necessary for the use of the Church? was this done within one Month after the end of their year, and did they at the same time deliver up to the Parishioners whatsoever Money or other things of right belonging to the Church or Parish remained in their hands, to be by them delivered over by Bill indented to the next Church-Wardens?

TIT. VI.

Concerning Parish Clarks.

1. HAve you a Clark belonging to your Church or Chappel, aged 20 years at least? Is he of honest Life and Conversation? able to perform his duty in reading, writing, and singing? Was he chosen by your Minister? And doth he duely attend him in all Divine Offices at the Church? Are his wages duely paid him, or who withholdeth the same from him? *Can.* 91.

II. Doth your Clark or Sexton (if there be any such appointed in your Parish) look diligently to your Church-doors, that they be opened and Shut in due time, and secured by Locking when there is no occasion of their being open? Doth he keep your Church clean and decent as becomes the House of God? Doth he toll or ring the Bells at the hours accustomed before Morning and Evening Service, that the People may have warning to come to Church? And when any Person is passing out of this life doth he upon notice given him thereof, toll a Bell as the custom has been, that the Neighbours may be thereby warned to recommend the dying Person to the Grace and Favour of God? *Can.* 67.

TIT. VII.

Concerning Hospitals, Schools, Schoolmasters, Physicians, Chirurgeons, and Midwives.

1. IS there any Hospital, Almes-house or Free-School founded in your Parish? Who was the Founder, 2 *Hen.* 5. 1 *Q. Eliz.* *A.* 3. 4.

or

or is now the Patron thereof? And what is the yearly Revenue or Stipend belonging to the Governours or Masters of the same? Is the same ordered and governed in every respect as it ought to be? And are the revenues thereof rightly imployed according to the intention of the Founder, and of such Grants or Ordinances as have been made concerning the same.

II. Doth any Man keep a Publick or Private School
Can. 77. in your Parish, not licenced thereunto by the Bishop? Doth your School-Master teach his Scholars the Catechism of the Church of England? Doth he cause them,
Can. 79. upon Sundays and Holydays to repair to your Church or Chappel? And see that they behave themselves there quietly and with reverence during the time of divine Service and Sermon?

III. Doth any Man in your Parish practice Physick
3 Hen. 8. 11. or Chirurgery, or any Woman take upon her to exercise the office of a Midwife without Approbation and Licence from the Ordinary.

If you know any other Default or Crime of Ecclesiastical Cognizance, though it be not particularly expressed in these Articles, you are to present the same and therein to take the Assistance of your Minister.

The Minister of every Parish may joyn in presentment with the
Can. 113. *Church-wardens; and if the Church-wardens shall neglect to do their duty the Minister may present as well the Offences committed, as the Offence of the Church-wardens in not presenting the same: Particu-*
Can. 112. *larly there are two sort of Offenders which every Minister is obliged to present,* viz. *Such as being of the Age of sixteen years received not the*
Can. 114. *Communion at Easter before; and Popish Recusants; both such as neither receive the Communion, nor come to Church, and such as come to Church, but receive not the Communion, distinguishing the Absolute Recusants from the Half Recusants.*

FINIS.